

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Memorandum

TO : Executive Assistant to the
Director of Training

DATE: 20 February 1970

FROM : Chief, Language School

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

1. We have begun a soundproofing modification of the new experimental study carrels. Students have found the new carrels too resonant. Application of acoustic tile reduces the resonance and noise to acceptable levels.

2. The Training Officer, WH Division, called Chief, Romance Languages Division last week and commended him on the quality of the Spanish language instruction given by the Language School and, particularly, the excellence of our teachers.

3. The Chinese department is this week completing the comprehension tapes to go with the text "Advanced Conversational Chinese". This completes the production of comprehension tapes to go with all three of the principal texts used in our 44-week, full-time Chinese course. We will now start on a series of drill tapes to accompany the first text, "Speak Mandarin".

4. Personnel Notes

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a. [REDACTED] a new Spanish teacher reported for duty on Thursday, 19 February.

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b. [REDACTED] a long-time language teacher and tester of LS, was operated on at Suburban Hospital on Thursday. She appears to be doing well.

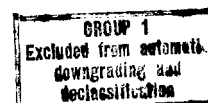
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c. We expect [REDACTED] of FE Division to report for duty at LS on Tuesday, 24 March. [REDACTED] will assist us for the remainder of the year in an intensive effort to improve the quality of our Chinese language tapes.



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5. Chief and Deputy Chief, Language School attended the monthly meeting of the Interagency Language Roundtable on 20 February. The meeting was hosted by USIA. Dr. Conway, Director of USIA Training made some preliminary comments based upon his role as a member of a committee examining FSI training. He said of language training "we have reached the end of the honeymoon period in government language training where no one outside of the language training community has looked closely at language training in government. Because funds are being curtailed, justification for language training programs is now essential and such training must, in the future be employed to meet specific needs." He referred to the survey presently being made by GAO in this respect. Following Dr. Conway's remarks, members of the Roundtable reported on significant language activities in which they were engaged. Nothing new or startling was reported. Mr. Woods of GAO who attended the meeting commented that the government wide survey of language training is continuing but at a slower pace than planned because they have already found government language training to be much broader in scope than anticipated. To determine the size and scope of foreign language training in government is now a major objective as is determining the degree of duplication of facilities and effort. The GAO representatives have already talked with FSI, Peace Corps and USIA. Their next stop is with AID and after that DLI. ✓

6. Language School Statistics

Students and classes as of 20 February 1970:

Students

Full-time - 88
Part-time - 143 (62 Hqs.)
(29 BAHLT)

Classes

Full-time - 35
Part-time - 52 (12 Hqs.)
(6 BAHLT)

Laboratory hours for the week 9 - 13 February:

Headquarters - 55 hours
Language School - 324 hours

Thirty-four proficiency tests were administered during the week 9 - 13 February 1970.


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